# R.A.C.E. JOURNAL

## AUGUST, 1987

### REDDING ATARI COMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS

**R.A.C.E. 8-BIT**
Rico's Pizza Parlor
1st Saturday of each
Month 6pm
MIKE DENNIS, 547-3998

**ATARI**

**R.A.C.E. ST SIG**
Shasta Meadows Elementary
2nd Saturday of each
Month 7pm
MIKE FARRAR, 243-5189, 347-0416

Fleet Street Clip Art Examples Can Be Used in Publishing Partner Also

### R.A.C.E. P.O. BOX 818, COTTONWOOD, CA. 96022

# R.A.C.E. ST SIG MEETING NOTES

## JULY 1987

The R.A.C.E. ST SIG meeting was held this month at the home of Mike Farrar due to changes at the usuall location. We will continue to meet here in the month of August then return to the Shasta Meadows School location in September. Bob Wierman in his own capable way lead the help session which continues to be a very useful and practical part of the R.A.C.E. ST SIG MEETINGS. We would encourage you to attend these so you can obtain answers and knowledge about how to better use your Atari ST.

Mike began the general session with another Tiny Slideshow which proved to be very entertaining. Also shown was the amazing Cyberscape demo from Antic. This hardly can be described. A disk takes form on the screen, acquires engines and zooms off etching itself on electronic parts. It flys into a scene with a huge Atari graphic where it enters the I of Atari which has changed into an ST. Once inside the scene shows the powered disk traveling through the IC maze, attaching itself to the computer and all sorts of fireworks commence. Truly amazing. This demo is on a double sided disk and requires a double sided drive, 1 meg of ram and a color monitor to run. See Mike for copies.

Mike announced that he had finally got the first print out of the revised club disk library published and distributed it to paying members. Non-paying members can pay 25 cents and obtain a hardcopy. Due to the financial situation with the club, members voted to up the charges for club library disks. A portion would go to maintaining the library and a portion to decrease the club debt which has occurred with the publication of the

newsletter. For more information on the ST SIG Disk Library see the advertisement in this newsletter. An up-to-date listing of the club library can be found in the Marturia BBS editorial section. Mike will update this as much as possible.

Mike announced that a suggestion had been made to come up with a user group booklet which would detail and list all the tricks and tips on use of the ST computer. There are many such hidden keystrokes which are useful to know but are only found out by extensive reading or luck. Bill and Judy Ball have volunteered to collate all this information and to type it up. If you are aware of any such tricks, get the ideas to Mike Farrar and he will pass them to the Balls for typing.

Mike ran through the monthly club disk. On the disk were several neat games and demos. A new Tinyview program as well as Tiny Stuffer program were included. Past monthly disks are still available as well as the ST Tour disk.

Mike turned the rest of the meeting over to Hal Bonillas and his Telecommunications demo. Hal covered this area of using computers to communicate over the phone lines very well. He demonstrated the use of various terminal programs and the basics of how to log on, log off and how to download and upload a program. This area of computer use should grow drastically as more computers enter our private homes. It provides an avenue of shopping, business and collection of information without leaving your home. Any questions about this area should be directed to Hal Bonillas, Jim Demarco or Mike Farrar.

The meeting was ajourned and general socializing ensued. Mike had set up a little storefront in a separate room and some business took place.

Hope to see you at the next R.A.C.E. ST SIG MEETING!

# 8-BIT PRODUCT NEWS

Here is the latest news on 8-bit products from Atari.

## XEP-80

The long-awaited 80 column card for the 8-bits is literally on the boat headed for the U.S. as I write this. Arrival is expected any day now and should be on the store shelves the end of this month. Price will be around $79.95.

## 1200 Baud Modem

Still no news on availability or release date. We will just have to learn patience with this product. (I know we have already learned that lesson many times over.)

## 5 1/4" Floppy Drive

A new drive from Atari is on the horizon. Release date is unknown. This is a new 5 1/4" floppy disk drive for the Atari 8-bit line. It is supposed to read all the previous official Atari OS's, be three times faster than the 1050 and about the same size. The price has not been set as yet, but will run in the range of $250.00. With the release of this disk drive there will be no 3 1/2" drive developed for the 8-bitters.

## XE GAME SYSTEM

Atari is releasing a "computer" game system in the XE line. They will include 3 popular cartridge games at no additional cost when they begin shipping. Games included are Flight Simulator II, Missile Command and Blast'em. This will be the ultimate game system. It has more power and functions than any other system. The game module is really a scaled down 65XE. It will come with 64K of memory an attachable game-playing keyboard, video gun, and a joystick. The cartridge of the system can store over 256K of a program. Atari will also sell a disk drive for the system for those gamers who want to access disk based games. Pretty slick marketing by Atari if you ask me.

The ST X-PRESS
Diskmate Grapevine
July 1987

Welcome to the next issue of the Diskmate Grapevine. The original Grapevine appears in the pages of ST X-PRESS magazine, THE ST Informer. The full fledged version of the Diskmate Grapevine appears on the Diskmate, the official support disk of ST X-PRESS (thought we were going to say the olympics didn't you?) This file also appears (and will appear in the future) on GEnie and in the pages" of Zmagazine. We would appreciate it, if you, the readers, would upload this file to any private BBSs and any major networks (Compuserve, Delphi, etc.) AS LONG AS THE CREDITS AND FULL FORM OF THIS FILE ARE KEPT INTACT. Now, onto what you've been waiting for...

CES, WAS IT WORTH THE WAIT?

Well, first off let's talk about the CES. Hmmm. Actually there's not much to talk about. There were no major releases shown at the CES (at least at the time of writing, which is June 1). We talked to various people before the show and they said that nothing extraordinary was expected. We talked to various people after the show and (guess what) nothing extraordinary was shown! One interesting note: It was overheard that Sam Tramiel said the boat with the Megas was enroute to the states. This means that they will definately be ready around (or before) the end of July -- although in limited quantities. Remember where you heard this first, ST X-PRESS!

ST REPLAY REPLAY ST

ST Replay is a new digitizer that is being marketed by Michtron. It was originally designed by Microdeal. From what we've fiddled around with, it seems very very very interesting. Compared to some of the older digitizers, it leaves them in the dust! The only problem is with the software. It's terrible, to put it bluntly. It will do the job alright, just don't expect to do any professional editing. This was supposedly done to reserve space, it would have been nice if they had two versions: one that reserved space, and one that had a good amount of features.

Also, another dissappointment is the software that allows the programmer to utilitize the sound. We don't know

about the Assembly source code, but using the GFA Basic source the music played awfully. There was so much static that it was almost hard to understand the sound. Most likely, these things will be fixed in the actual version that will be shipping.

## WORLD OF ATARI

What's the World of Atari? Unfortunately, many people seem to be left in the cold on this topic. It is a kind of Super Atari Faire that will be held in Santa Clara on the 19th and 20th of June. Atari was a bit late in telling people about the show, but they still expect a crowd of about 10,000. Last years show was a success with about 5,000 people showing. We'll tell you more about this show in the following weeks (we'll have a booth to demonstrate some products). If you're interested contact Sandy Austin at Atari (whether you need booth space or info). The number is (408) 745-2000.

## PC-DITTO

Most ST users have already heard that there is a new IBM emulator being released in the early days of June. For those who didn't, it will retail for $89.95 and offers very close to 100% IBM emulation. This is the product that everyone has been waiting for!
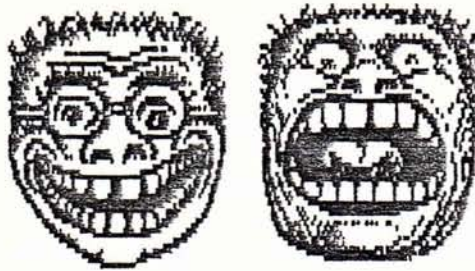
## RUMOR MILL

Do you like Flash? A new version, Flash 2.0 is being developed. It could be out some time during the summer. It'll include automatic compacting of files before sending them and then uncompacting before they're received.

AND (American Networks Developement) is developing a true multi-tasking operating system. It will run up to 50 different programs at once (this is no joke, it's what we heard from reputable sources) without hardly any speed decrease. It will run a kind of Unix operating system. Unfortunately, I doubt that ST X-PRESS will be getting a review copy of it since they haven't even sent us their previous programs (even though we've contacted them numerous times). If anyone is interested in a review of this or their other products then take a few seconds and give them a call at (504) 341-7222. Tell them that you want to see a review of their products in ST X-PRESS and tell them to send us review copies!

## 2 & 4 MEGABYTE UPGRADES

Do you want to use the upcoming laser printer from Atari? Or do you

just need the extra space? ST X-PRESS is offering 2 and 4 Megabyte upgrades. The 2 Megabyte Upgrade is $495 and the 4 Megabyte Upgrade is $895. These prices include shipping, installation, the chips, etc. Give us a call at (213) 691-8000 if you're intersted or would like to discuss any details.



## YOU, CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

A while back we started hearing rumors about an 8-bit emulator. Soon ʾ saw a public domain version of this ᵤₙulator. It seemed the rumors were true. Then all of the sudden Atari seemed to step on the programmer and crush his effors even before they were in full bloom. This angered a lot of people and petitions were started, including our own in the last Diskmate Grapevine.

Well, it seems that everybody's contribution has helped! Atari has finally decided to go ahead with the project. This means that we will soon be able to run Atari 8-bit software on our STs! Yeaaah!

Now, we are undergoing another venture. A user on GEnie portrayed his interest in the Bruce Lee program. This also interested me personally because it was one of my favorite games on the 8-bits. So a petition was started in a section of the ST SIG on GEnie. There, users left their names and addresses if they were definately interested in buying the program. We would also like YOU to send us your petitions to:

WE WANT BRUCE LEE!
c/o ST X-PRESS
P.O. Box 2383
La Habra, CA 90632

We will be contacting Datasoft and keeping in touch with them to see how we can make Bruce Lee a possibility on the ST. So SEND in your petitions, all you need to write is your name, address, and a little note stating that you're interested in the program. ALL IT TAKES IS A FEW MINUTES TO HELP YOURSELVES AND YOUR FELLOW ST USERS!



## ONE LAST THING

I just received a Newsletter from MVACE, a user group in Ohio. They reprinted the Diskmate Grapevine in their newsletter, and all I can say is that I am very pleased. The information here should be passed onto anyone who craves for knowledge about their computers. If you're interested in including the information in this file in your

Newsletter than by all means do. Just be sure to mention that it was reprinted from ST X-PRESS. Also, be sure to keep the contents exactly as they appear in this file. Thanks and have fun!
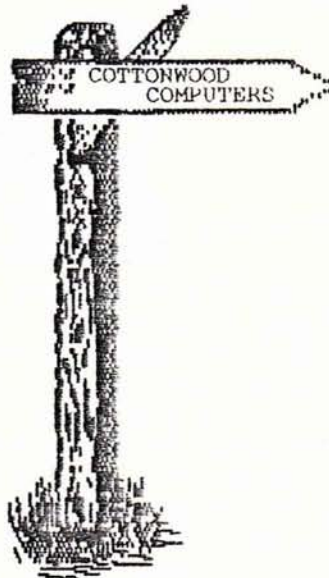
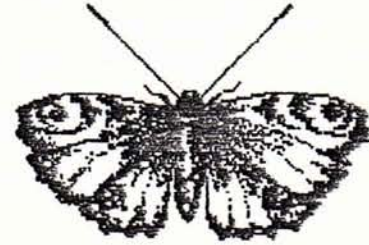Until next month,
Rich Decowski

Editor

ST X-PRESS
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La Habra, CA 90632
(213) 691-8000

ST X-PRESS is published on a monthly basis. For more information on the magazine please call us, we'll be more than happy to answer your questions.

ST X-PRESS is available at Cottonwood Computers, 1553 Main Street, Cottonwood, Ca 96022.

## CONSULTANT SERVICE

Are you having problems working with your computer? Does it just not seem to cooperate? Are you engaging in a major project and are not sure what program to use or how to go about it? Cottonwood Computers has recently run across a very qualified individual who has worked with several brands of computers who might could help you. Wayne Chenoweth spent many years becoming a skilled Graphic Artist and has worked for several companies and ministries. He currently is being consulted on some thesis work for several ST users. If you are working on a major Desktop Publishing work or Thesis project, why not give Wayne a call at 223-6440.

# DO YOU BELONG???

Are you an active member -- the kind that would be missed?

Or are you content that you name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock?

Or do you just stay at home to critize and knock?

Do you take an active part to keep the work along?
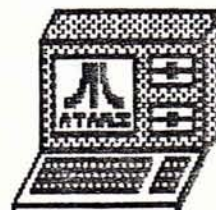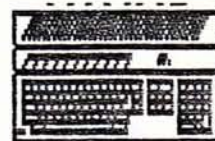
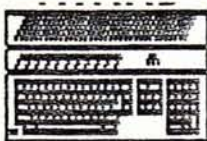Or are you satisfied to only just belong?

Do you ever go to visit a member who is sick?

Or leave the work to just a few and talk about the 'clicque'?

Think this over, member, you know right from wrong.

Are you an active member...
or do you just belong?

Whether you own an 8-bit or 16-bit Atari computer you really should consider becoming a member of R.A.C.E. The 8-bit section is free and the 16-bit section is $10/year. Consider all the benefits you would gain from getting help for your questions and giving answers to others'. JOIN NOW !!!

# R.A.C.E. ST SIG DISK LIBRARY

The Redding Atari Computer Enthusiasts ST Special Interest Group
maintains an ST Disk Library with over 250 disks full of programs.
If you own an ST you should acquire a listing of this library. It can
be obtained by writing Mike Farrar, ST SIG President at P.O. Box 818,
Cottonwood, Ca. 96022. Please enclose a self addressed stamped
envelope and 50 cents to cover photocopying charges and postage.
Included in the library are Utility programs, Music files, ST Art,
Monthly Issues of disk magazines and all sorts of amazing things.
Charges for duplications of disks in the library run anywhere from
$3.00 to $6.00 depending on the disk and if you are a member of
R.A.C.E. or not. You may also view the library listing by calling
Marturia BBS at 916-243-0297 and looking in the editorial section.

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# R.A.C.E. ST SIG T-SHIRTS

The R.A.C.E. ST SIG would like you to know that
there are still T-Shirt Transfers available.
To obtain a transfer, simply contact Mike Farrar
and purchase a certificate for $4.00. This can
be taken to the Shasta Silly Shirt Shoppe and
Silkscreen and they will place a R.A.C.E. ST SIG
Transfer on a shirt of your choice. The money
for the certificate goes to help support club
functions so help us get out of debt, promote the
club and identify yourself as a member!

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS OF ATARI CORPORATION

Atari Corp. reported sales for the 1st quarter ended April 4, 1987 were $65,133,000, an increase of 45% over the $44,877,000 in sales for the same period last year. Income before an extraordinary item for the quarter (a tax reduction from the use of loss carryforwards) was $9,365,000, up 411% from the $1,831,000 reported for the same period in 1986. Earnings per share for the quarter before the extraordinary item were $.32 versus $.08 for the 1st quarter in 1986.

First quarter sales and profits continued to be strong. In Europe we have added new sales offices in Spain and Sweden. We plan to concentrate heavily on improving sales in the United States. To help accomplish this goal a new general manager has been hired.

During April of this year the Company completed a Euro-Dollar bond issue for $75,000,000 at 5 1/4%. The proceeds will be used to expand the Company's business through capital expenditures or acquisitions in the computer business and related areas for general corporate purposes.

In the year ahead, Atari plans to concentrate heavily on improving sales in the U.S. Their focus will be on a broader distribution and market share which will be supported by increased merchandising and advertising efforts. They also intend to introduce several new, exciting products utilizing the most recent technology.

The successes they have enjoyed, as well as the ones they are planning for, are a result of the firm's belief in their basic principles:

* WE OFFER THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE.

* WE BELIEVE IN A FAIR PROFIT FOR OURSELVES, OUR SUPPLIERS AND OUR DEALERS.

* WE SELL TO AND BUY FROM THE WORLD -- WE TAKE A GLOBAL VIEW OF THE MARKET.

* WE BELIEVE IN MAINTAINING A HORIZONTAL MANAGEMENT STYLE AND A LEAN OVERHEAD.

* WE SELL TO THE MASSES NOT THE CLASSES.

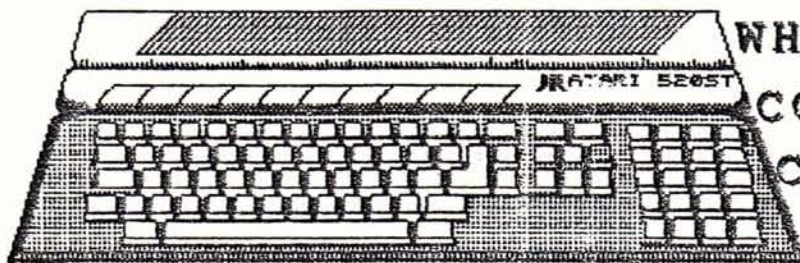* BUSINESS IS WAR.

Sam Tramiel would like to thank everyone involved for their intensive support.
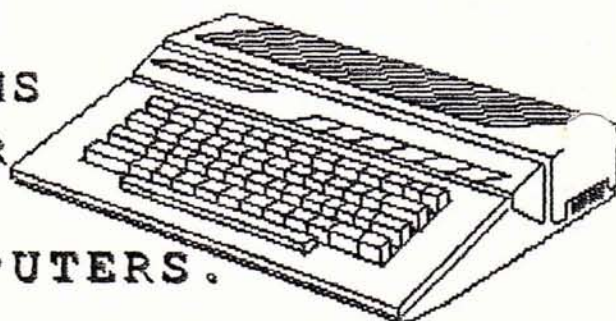
# COTTONWOOD COMPUTERS
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### SUPPORTING THE ATARI ST & 8-BIT
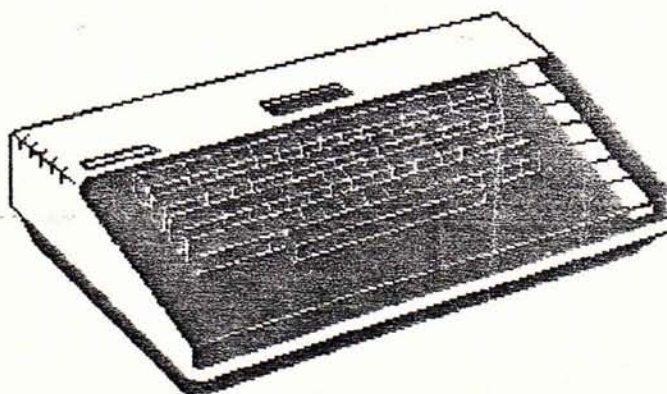### LINES OF COMPUTERS

WHATEVER YOUR
COMPUTER NEED
CALL 347-0416
FOR HELP.

WE STOCK PROGRAMS
OF ALL TYPES FOR
BOTH THE ST AND
8-BIT ATARI COMPUTERS.

WE HAVE BACK
ISSUES OF MOST
MAGAZINES AND
DISKS FOR BOTH
ST & 8-BIT.

IF WE DON'T HAVE IT WE CAN
GET IT AND WE NEVER SELL
FULL RETAIL!